

Guidelines for OVHA Coverage

ITEM: Parenteral Nutrition

DEFINITION: The intravenous provision of nutritional requirements.

GUIDELINES: Parenteral nutrition is for the individual who:

- Has permanent pathology of the gastrointestinal tract which impairs absorption of sufficient nutrients to preserve weight and strength commensurate with the individual's general medical condition AND
- Cannot be maintained on oral or enteral feedings AND
- Must have intravenous infusions for nutritional stability AND
- Has been comprehensively evaluated to ensure that all pharmacological and enteral interventions have been fully and unsuccessfully attempted.

CAUTIONS: Risk of infection.

EXAMPLES OF DIAGNOSES: Small bowel resection within the past 3 months, short bowel syndrome, severe pancreatitis, regional enteritis, small bowel obstruction, severe malnourishment,

REFERENCES:

Local Medical Review Policies, Tricenturion LLC, Columbia, SC.

www.tricentrurion.com.

Complete Guide to Medicare Coverage Issues, St. Anthony Publ., Nov. 2001. Ingenix Inc. Reston, VA.

Medical Director's signature: _____

OVHA Director's signature: _____

Date:

Revision 1:

Revision 2:

Revision 3: